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VALSA TUBERCULOSA.—Perithecia 8 to 10, globose, .015' in diameter, buried in a stroma formed of the substance of the bark, which is not discolored, though rendered more compact, and surrounded by a black circumscribing line, which penetrates deeply into the wood; ascigerous nucleus whitish; ostiola short, cylindrical, stout, obtuse, with an irregular opening, united in a little fascicle, which barely pierces the epidermis; asci broadly lanceolate, .003' x .0006'; paraphyses filiform; sporidia biseriate, elliptical, with two large nuclei at first, and with the endochrome finally 2-parted, about .0005' x .0003'.

Sometimes two fascicles of ostiola are erumpent from the same stroma.

On dead branches of *Amelanchier Canadensis*. April.

VALSA VENUSTA.—Perithecia 15 to 20, .01' in diameter, closely packed in a loose cortical stroma, which is circumscribed by a black line penetrating the wood; ostiola cylindrical, rough, slender, slightly swollen above, in length 2-3 times the diameter of the perithecia, at first united in a black, uneven, elongated disk, bursting out through longitudinal fissures in the bark, but which is finally obliterated by the compactly clustered, subobtuse ostiola; asci clavate-cylindrical, .002'—.0025' x .0002'—.00025'; paraphyses linear, nucleate; sporidia 8, cylindrical, hyaline, strongly curved, 3-4-nucleate, with the endochrome at length 3-4-times divided, .00035'—.00045' x .00075'.

On dead branches of *Robinia Pseudacacia*. (N. A. F., No. 875.)

VALSA AMPELOPSIDIS.—Perithecia few, seated on the surface of the wood, without any distinct stroma; ostiola cylindrical, subacute, their tips united in an elliptical plane disk, which bursts out through longitudinal fissures in the bark, but is at length obliterated; asci clavate-cylindrical; sporidia biseriate, elliptical, subacute, hyaline with a large nucleus in the centre or with 2-3 smaller ones, .0007' x .00025'—.0003'.

On dead stems of *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*. (N. A. F., No. 881.)*

The Migration of Weeds—of those which may be called “domesticated plants,” following man in his movements—and their occupancy of ground to the exclusion of other plants less hardy and able to stand in the struggle for life, is an interesting feature in geographical distribution. Our numerous railroads, traversing now the entire continent, and ramifying in every direction over the States, with their *through-freight* and *through-passenger* transportation, have become the chief agents in this distribution. This struggle for life on the new ground opened to the combatants is more intense than by the natural process, where the movements are governed by causes slower in operation, and extending over a longer period. Here the combatants, the champions which have won their belt on the fields (to borrow a phrase from the prize-ring), are transported more

*On page 74, line 27, of the BULLETIN the word “leaves” should be inserted after the word “fallen.”

The habitat of *Periza Hainesii* (Vol. viii., page 66) should be changed to read “rich soil among decaying leaves in dry woods.”—J. B. E.

quickly, and brought face to face with each other. The effect of this is somewhat of a rotation. The weeds succumb—the stronger prevail. I have observed something of this in the streets and waste-places of Aiken during a period of twenty-five years past.

The principal weeds now—those most predominant, and occupying the waste-places and the untrampled portions of the streets, are *Helenium tenuifolium*, *Helianthemum Canadense*, *Acanthospermum xanthioides* *Lespedeza striata*, all, if we except *Helianthemum Canadense*, introduced plants; the first-named, from beyond the Mississippi, the two last from foreign regions. *Helianthemum* may also be classed as an introduced plant, for it has evidently come in from elsewhere, and only in the past few years has been making much progress.

Helenium tenuifolium is not indigenous to this region. It seems not to have been known by Elliott and our earlier botanists. Dr. Chapman gives its locality as "West Florida and westward"; Torrey and Gray, in North American Flora, "in Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas." I have seen it in quantity along the Georgia Railroad west of Augusta; abundantly in the neighborhood of Augusta; and in the streets of Aiken it is an "evil weed" occupying acres of ground in dense patches, encroaching upon the sidewalks, and giving the street cleaners extra trouble to keep it within bounds. I have had specimens sent to me from as far east as Sumter County in this State on a line of railroad. It has evidently traveled from beyond the Mississippi along the line of railroads, and is now probably pretty well disseminated over our Atlantic States.

Helianthemum Canadense, in the more light and sterile portions of the streets, occupies patches of several acres, to the exclusion of almost everything else, and is on the increase.

Acanthospermum is a much later importation. It was brought from South America, in wool used by the Augusta factories, about twenty-five years ago. It is abundant all around Augusta and along the line of the Georgia Railroad, running west; was reported in Macon several years ago, and now perhaps still further west; on the S. C. Railroad towards Charleston; on the N. E. Railroad from Charleston northward; and on the Augusta, Columbia and Wilmington Railroad in the eastern section of our State. Here, in Aiken, it is generally diffused through the town, all over the streets, in yards and in the gardens, and also extends out into the country around. It is an annual, seeding abundantly; and the small seeds, armed with hooked barbs, help to carry it to long distances.

Lespedeza striata, an importation from Japan, has been here for a longer period. I found it in small quantity, some forty years ago, in the coast region about forty miles north of Charleston; also along the State road within ten miles of the city. Elliott and the earlier botanists make no mention of it. MacBride, who aided Elliott in his "Sketches," and who lived in the very region where I first found it, and knew the flora very accurately, had never seen it. It was probably introduced through the port of Charleston by vessels from the East Indies early in the present century, and began to spread

itself from that centre. During the four years of the war, it made great progress through the country in all directions, especially along the lines of railroads, and by the movement of cavalry through the country woods. It is now all over our streets, and in waste-places, but not as conspicuous as the other weeds, as it is kept well cropped by animals.

I said there was something like rotation observable in the predominance of these "domesticated weeds." Not many years ago, the Florida coffee, *Cassia occidentalis*, was perhaps the most abundant weed about the streets and waste-places. *Maruta Cotula* (wild chamomile) was also very common. Both of these have decreased in quantity, and seem to be on the decline, or at least not able to struggle against those which now have possession. Is the rotation due to natural causes, viz., the exhaustion of the soil by one plant, and its rest and restoration by others? Or is it the result of greater potency in the conquering plant? Are these champions now in possession to hold their guard until displaced by a superior race, or will they be compelled by natural causes to give way to a new race of settlers?

Aiken, S. C.

H. W. RAVENEL.

Notes on the White Mountains Flora.—A note concerning Mr. Prime's collections in this valley reported in the BULLETIN for August, induces me to send you a few lines in regard to my own observations. I have been here since early in July, and have kept a record of all the plants, whether in fruit or flower, that I chanced to see. I have also collected quite largely. When I first came, the charming *Linnaea* was in its beauty, forming odorous mats on the banks of the Copper Mine Brook. Under the pines, too, I had the pleasure of gathering *Moneses uniflora* for the first time. Characteristic regional plants that I have since found have been *Peyrola minor* and *Geum macrophyllum*. Near Bridal Veil Falls I came upon a nice lot of *Habenaria orbiculata*. Near the famous Flume I gathered quite a quantity of *Habenaria dilatata*. The character of the vegetation is extremely boreal, much like that of New Brunswick. *Oxalis acetosella*, *Clintonia borealis*, *Tiarella cordifolia*, *Streptopus* of both species, and *Trilliums* abound. The prevalent *Solidago* now in bloom in the valley is *S. arguta*. *S. thyrsoides* is to be found up the brook, where I also have my eye on several *Nabali*. I have not yet climbed to alpine heights, but have been surprised to find how high up grow the common yarrow and *Aralia hispida*. I also find *Microstylis monophyllus* at a considerable elevation.

There are no oaks or chestnuts here, nor sassafras. The almost primeval forests are made up of giant pines, rising to over a hundred feet and then feathering out into foliage; birches, beeches, ashes, mountain-ashes, larches and spruces. There are magnificent specimens of all these.

The prevalent weed here is the yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*); the ox-eye daisy is very rare. On the other hand, *Rudbeckia hirta* is common. I have seen but one specimen of *Lappa major*. There are no wild roses or grapes. But two clumps of *Adiantum pedatum* have as yet turned up, and I have seen no rare ferns.